

REMARKS

Claims 103 and 138-140 are currently pending in the application. By this amendment, claims 34-36, 98-102, and 104-137 are cancelled, claim 103 is amended, and new claims 138-140 are added for the Examiner's consideration. The foregoing separate sheets marked as "Listing of Claims" shows all the claims in the application, with an indication of the current status of each .

Claim rejections

The claim rejections described in the Office Action of 08/02/2006 are as follows:

1) Claims 103-109 and 135 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, for purportedly failing to comply with the written description requirement due to a purported lack of recitation of a specific species of antigenic composition. Claim 103 has hereby been amended to recite the specific combination of *Na-ASP-2*, a second adult stage hookworm antigen selected from the group consisting of *Na-APR-1*, *Na-GST-* and *Na-CP-2*; and at least one adjuvant.

Support for this amendment is found in the specification, for example, on page 22 at lines 18-21, where a cocktail of antigens with two (or more) antigens is described. In a preferred embodiment, the cocktail contains a larval stage antigen and an adult stage antigen (lines 19-20). Applicant notes that *Na-ASP-2* is a larval stage antigen, and *Na-APR-1* and *Na-CP-2* are adult stage antigens while *Na-GST* is both an adult and larval stage antigen (see lines 21-23 of page 22). Support for the inclusion of at least one adjuvant is also found on page 22. Line 15 of page 22 states that the preparations may include an adjuvant, and line 8 states that the composition may contain "other adjuvants".

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

2) Claims 103-109 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, due to purported lack of enablement due to the recitation of eliciting an immune response to "hookworm". Claim 103 has hereby been amended to recite that the response is elicited to a composition containing a hookworm antigen, thereby addressing Examiner's argument. Other claims referred to in this rejection have been cancelled.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of claim 103 and withdrawal of this rejection

3) Claims 103-104, 107-108 and 135 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as purportedly anticipated by Pritchard (WO 01/62802).

Pritchard requires the use of APR-1 and APR-2. Pritchard neither shows or suggests the use of the *Na-ASP-2* antigen in combination with another antigen to elicit an immune response. Claim 103 has hereby been amended to require two hookworm antigens in the composition, one of which must be *Na-ASP-2*. Therefore, Pritchard does not anticipate claim 103 as currently amended. Other claims referred to in this rejection have been cancelled.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of claim 103 and withdrawal of this rejection.

4) Claims 103-104, 106 and 108 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as purportedly anticipated by Bin et al, (1999).

Bin describes ASP-1. Bin neither shows or suggests the use of the *Na-ASP-2* antigen in combination with another antigen to elicit an immune response. Claim 103 has hereby been amended to require two hookworm antigens in the composition, one of which must be *Na-ASP-2*. Therefore, Bin does not anticipate claim 103 as currently amended. Other claims referred to in this rejection have been cancelled.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of claim 103 and withdrawal of this rejection.

New claims

New claims 138-140 recite embodiments of the invention in which the second antigen in the composition is *Na-APR-1*, in which two adjuvants are present, and in which one adjuvant is Anhydrogel, respectively. Support for these dependent claims is found, for example, at line 15 of page 22, which states that the preparations may include an adjuvant, and line 8 of page 22 which states that the composition may contain “other adjuvants”. Use of the specific adjuvant Anhydrogel is found on page 22 at lines 15-16.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that these new claims are fully supported by the specification as filed, and request consideration and allowance of new claims 138-140.

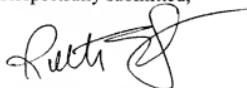
Concluding Remarks

In view of the foregoing, it is requested that the application be reconsidered, that claims 103 and 138-140 be allowed, and that the application be passed to issue.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at 703-787-9400 (fax: 703-787-7557; email: ruth@wcc-ip.com) to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

If an extension of time is required for this response to be considered as being timely filed, a conditional petition is hereby made for such extension of time. Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041.

Respectfully submitted,



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